

6 wherein the cancer is a cancer selected from the group consisting of breast cancer,
7 colorectal cancer, gastric cancer, esophageal cancer, Burkitt's lymphoma, B follicular cell
8 lymphoma and small cell lung carcinoma.

1 36. The method of claim 35 wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer.

1 37. The method of claim 36 wherein determining the genomic polymorphism of the subject
2 comprises determining the subject's genotype at a tandemly repeated 28 base pair
3 sequence in the thymidylate synthase (TS) gene's 5' untranslated region (UTR), wherein
4 the genotype is homozygous for a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence,
5 heterozygous for a double repeat and a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence, or
6 homozygous for a double repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence.

Continued

1 38. The method of claim 37 wherein the chemotherapeutic drug is a TS directed drug.

1 39. The method of claim 38 wherein the TS directed drug is a fluoropyrimidine.

1 40. The method of claim 39 wherein the fluoropyrimidine is 5-fluorouracil.

1 41. The method of claim 40 wherein the subject is a human subject.

1 42. The method of claim 41 wherein determining the subject's genotype further comprises:
2 extracting genomic DNA from a biological sample of the subject;
3 amplifying the 5' UTR of the thymidylate synthase gene of said genomic DNA using
4 polymerase chain reaction; and
5 analyzing the polymerase chain reaction product to determine the subject's genotype.

1 43. The method of claim 45 wherein analysis of the polymerase chain reaction product is
2 performed using electrophoresis.

1 44. A method for the treatment of a cancer in a subject, the method comprising:
2 (a) determining the subject's genotype at a tandemly repeated 28 base pair sequence in
3 the thymidylate synthase gene's 5' UTR, wherein the subject's genotype is homozygous
4 for a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence, heterozygous for a double repeat
5 and a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence, or homozygous for a double repeat
6 of the tandemly repeated sequence, and
7 (b) administering a TS-directed drug to the subject if the subject's genotype is
8 homozygous for a double repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence,
9 wherein the cancer is a cancer selected from the group consisting of breast cancer,
10 colorectal cancer, gastric cancer, esophageal cancer, Burkitt's lymphoma, B follicular cell
11 lymphoma and small cell lung carcinoma.

1 45. The method of claim 44 wherein determining the subject's genotype further comprises:
2 extracting genomic DNA from a biological sample of the subject;
3 amplifying the 5' UTR of the thymidylate synthase gene of said genomic DNA using
4 polymerase chain reaction; and
5 analyzing the polymerase chain reaction product to determine the subject's genotype.

1 46. The method of claim 45 wherein analysis of the polymerase chain reaction product is
2 performed using electrophoresis.

1 47. A method for determining the suitability of treating a cancer in a subject using a
2 chemotherapeutic drug, the method comprising:
3 taking a biological sample of the subject; and
4 using the biological sample to determine the genotype of a gene of the subject,
5 wherein said genotype determines the intratumoral expression of said gene, and wherein
6 said gene expression determines the response of the subject to said chemotherapeutic
7 drug.

1 48. The method of claim 47 wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer.

1 49. The method of claim 48 wherein the gene is thymidylate synthase gene.

1 50. The method of claim 49 wherein determining the genotype comprises determining the
2 subject's genotype at a tandemly repeated 28 base pair sequence in the thymidylate
3 synthase (TS) gene's 5' untranslated region (UTR), wherein the genotype is homozygous
4 for a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence, heterozygous for a double repeat
5 and a triple repeat of the tandemly repeated sequence, or homozygous for a double repeat
6 of the tandemly repeated sequence.

1 51. The method of claim 50 wherein the chemotherapeutic drug is a TS directed drug.

1 52. The method of claim 51 wherein the TS directed drug is a fluoropyrimidine.

1 53. The method of claim 52 wherein the fluoropyrimidine is 5-fluorouracil.

1 54. The method of claim 53 wherein the subject is a human subject.

1 55. The method of claim 54 wherein determining the subject's genotype further comprises:
2 extracting genomic DNA from a biological sample of the subject;
3 amplifying the 5' UTR of the thymidylate synthase gene of said genomic DNA using
4 polymerase chain reaction; and
5 analyzing the polymerase chain reaction product to determine the subject's genotype.

1 56. The method of claim 55 wherein analysis of the polymerase chain reaction product is
2 performed using electrophoresis.

1 57. A kit for use in screening for the effectiveness of TS directed drug therapy in human
2 subjects, the kit comprising:
3 means for determining a genomic polymorphism of the TS gene; and
4 instructions for use of the kit.

1 58. The kit of claim 57 wherein the means for determining said genomic polymorphism
2 comprise: